



## TENNESSEE HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION

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# MEDIA RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## Tennessee Human Rights Commission Receiving Testimony from Chattanooga Community Leaders

The Tennessee Human Rights Commission will continue statewide hearings in Chattanooga on Monday, February 24, 2014, which seek input from community leaders, researchers and advocacy groups to bring testimony regarding the state of human rights in local communities.

The hearing at UT-Chattanooga's University Center, Chattanooga Room, begins at 9:30 a.m. and will last until 11:30 a.m. Both written and oral testimonies will be accepted and included in the forthcoming report, "The State of Human Rights in Tennessee" from the Commission. The final report will include information from those bringing testimony in addition to statistics, trends and information from the Commission's own work, safeguarding individuals from discrimination through enforcement and education.

Testimony from the following community leaders and organizations about human rights issues facing Chattanooga and Tennesseans include:

- **James Mapp, Chattanooga NAACP**, on racial disparities in education and employment
- **Perrin Lance, Chattanooga Organized for Action**, on affordable housing needs
- **Valerie Radu, Grove Street Settlement House**, on violations in housing, employment and access to healthcare
- **Deborah Hyde, Parent Advocate**, on discrimination facing students with intellectual disabilities
- **Jerry Redman, Second Life Chattanooga**, on human trafficking and need for residential recovery
- **Jean-Marie Lawrence, Private Citizen**, on rights of individuals with disabilities on a global level

For more information and to RSVP to the Chattanooga Hearing, visit [www.chattanoogahearing.eventbrite.com](http://www.chattanoogahearing.eventbrite.com)

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